

The claims before the Examiner are directed toward a VSAT terminal and a method of its use. The VSAT terminal includes an antenna, a transmitter coupled to the antenna via a microwave power amplifier, a receiver coupled to the antenna via a microwave low noise amplifier, and a user VSAT interface. Full electrical power is supplied to the amplifiers in the presence of a communication session. Less-than-full electrical power is supplied to the amplifiers in the absence of a communication session. In particular, less-than-full electrical power is supplied to the amplifiers after a predetermined period of inactivity of the user VSAT interface.

§ 112, First Paragraph Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 13 and 14 under § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 13 and 14 now have been canceled, thereby rendering moot the Examiner's rejection of these claims.

§ 102(b) Rejections - Soleimani et al. '228

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 7-12, 15 and 16 under § 102(b) as being anticipated by Soleimani, U. S. Patent No. 5,678,228 (henceforth, "Soleimani '228"). The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

Soleimani et al. '228 teach a VSAT terminal in which power is supplied to transmitter **10** of outdoor unit **14** only when outdoor unit **14** receives a signal from indoor unit **16**, and in which power is supplied to receiver chain **80** only "at regular

predefined intervals” (column 5 lines 4-5). Note that the conditions defined by Soleimani et al. ‘228 for turning off power to transmitter **10** and to receiver chain **80** are independent of the activities of indoor unit **16** (the equivalent of the user VSAT interface of the present invention) and also are independent of the activities of receiver chain **80**.

According to the present invention, power to the microwave power amplifier and to the microwave low noise amplifier is turned off in response to other conditions that are not contemplated by Soleimani et al. ‘228 and that are neither hinted nor suggested in Soleimani et al. ‘228. Specifically, as recited in claims 7 and 15, power to the amplifiers is turned off after a predetermined period of inactivity of the user VSAT interface. Furthermore, as recited in claims 8 and 16, power to the amplifiers is turned off after a predetermined period of inactivity of the microwave low noise amplifier.

While continuing to traverse the Examiner's rejections, Applicant has, in order to expedite the prosecution, chosen to amend independent claims 1, 10 and 11 in order to clarify and emphasize the crucial distinctions between the present invention and the teachings of Soleimani ‘228. Specifically, claims 1, 10 and 11 have been amended to clarify that a less-than-full electrical power supply is provided to the amplifiers after a predetermined period of inactivity of the user VSAT interface. Support for these amendments lies in claims 7 and 15 as filed.

With the limitations of claim 7 and 15 now incorporated in claims 1 and 11, claims 7 and 15 have been canceled.

Amended independent claims 1, 10 and 11 now feature language which makes it absolutely clear that the present invention includes limiting the power supplied to the amplifiers after a period of inactivity of the user VSAT interface.. Applicant

believes that the amendment of the claims completely overcomes the Examiner's rejections on § 102(b) grounds.

In addition, new independent claims 17-19 have been added. These new claims correspond to claims 1, 10 and 11 as filed, with the limitation that a less-than-full electrical power supply is provided to the amplifiers after a predetermined period of inactivity of the microwave low noise amplifier. Support for these new claims lies in independent claims 1, 10 and 11 and dependent claims 8 and 16 as filed.

§ 103(a) Rejections - Soleimani et al. '228 in view of Kivari '655

The Examiner has rejected claims 5 and 6 under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soleimani et al. '228 in view of Kivari, U. S. Patent No. 5,471,655. (Applicant presumes that the Examiner's citation of "Dent et al (US 5,471,655)" was an inadvertent typographical error.) The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

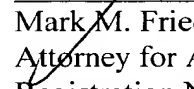
It is demonstrated above that independent claim 1 is allowable in its present form. It follows that claims 5 and 6, that depend therefrom, also are allowable.

Other Amendments of the Claims

An inadvertent typographical error in claim 10 ("compromises" instead of "comprises") has been corrected.

In view of the above amendments and remarks it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 10, 11 and 17-19, and hence dependent claims 2-6, 8, 9, 12-14 and 16 are in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of allowance is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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